

# Washington State Asthma Plan

Presentation to the Washington State  
Board of Health  
June 13, 2005

**Sean Sullivan, PhD, WAI Chair**

**John Thayer, RS , WAI APPT Co-Chair**

# WA State's Coalition Approach....

## *Washington Asthma Initiative*

*A statewide coalition dedicated to mobilize individuals, organizations, and communities throughout the state to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and management of asthma in order to decrease its individual and societal burdens*

# Washington Asthma Initiative

- Founded in 1997
- 1998 published recommendation for addressing asthma in WA
- As a collaboration between.....
  - American Lung Association of Washington
  - Department of Health
  - Additional 70 stakeholders

# 2002-2005 Outcomes

- **Standardize Tools**

- Common state guidelines for diagnosis, clinical assessment and treatment of asthma (*WSMA, DOH, ALAW, WAI, Health Plans*)
- Common asthma action plans (*WSMA, DOH, ALAW, WAI, KCAF, Medicaid, Health Plans*)
- Dissemination of these efforts

- **Professional Education**

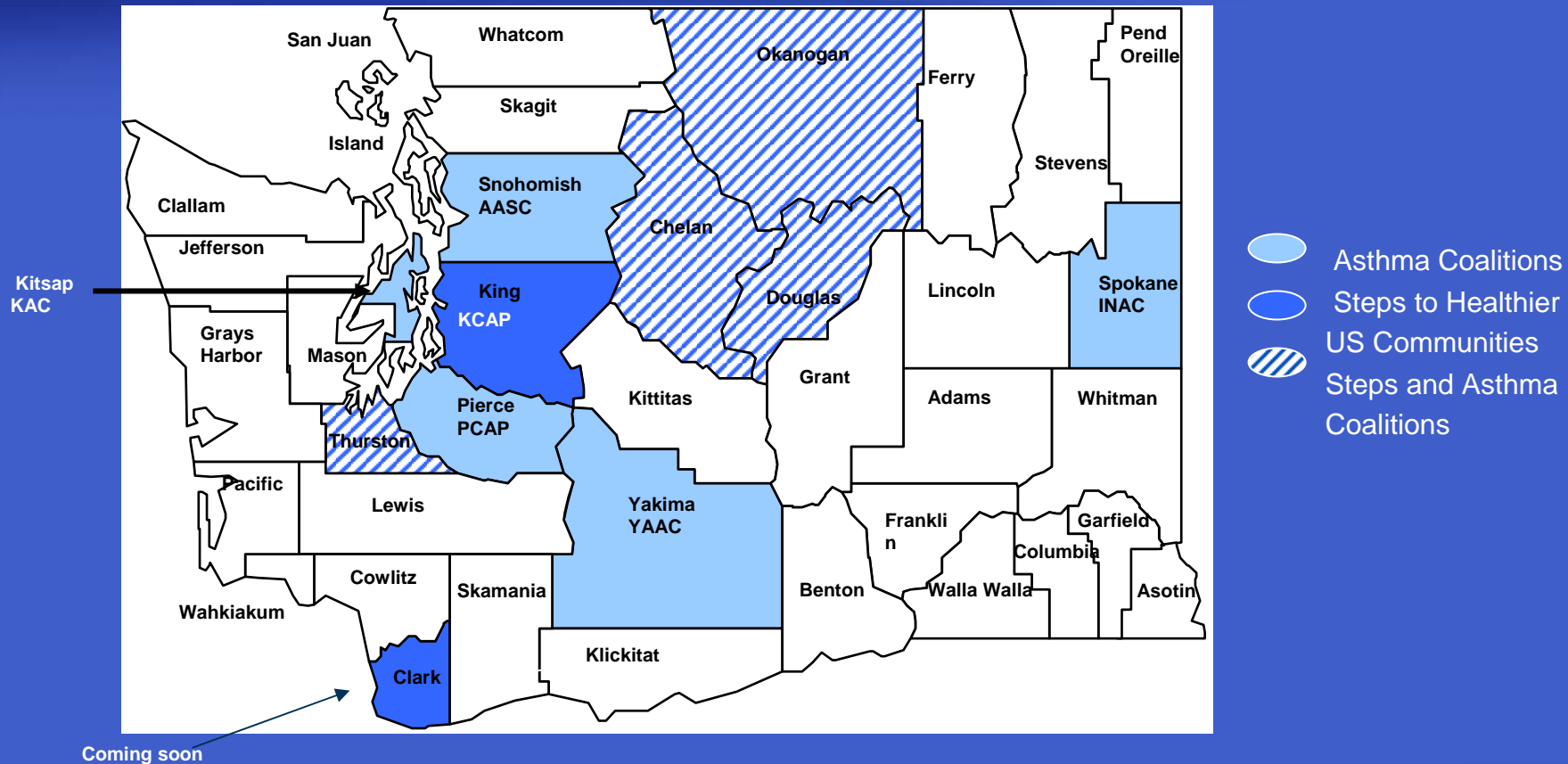
- Professional education programs (Asthma Educator Institute)
  - Advanced practitioner education programs
  - Medical assistant training program

- **Policy**

- “Attack on Asthma” (SB 5841) legislation passed into law assuring the right for children to self carry rescue medication and engage the Health Care Authority in addressing asthma quality of care

- **Coalition Growth and Coordination of Activities**

# Asthma Coalitions



AASC = Asthma Alliance of Snohomish County; INAC = Inland Northwest Asthma Coalition; KCAF = King County Asthma Forum; PCAP = Pierce County Asthma Partnership; KCAP = Kitsap Asthma Coalition YAAC = Yakima Area Asthma Coalition

# Washington State Asthma Plan

*In 2000 CDC released Action Against Asthma Plan*

- Provide funding to states to address asthma*
- DOH was recipient of funding to develop a statewide plan*
- A Coalition approach to plan development*

# The Burden of Asthma in Washington

- The prevalence of asthma has increased significantly between 1999 and 2003
- About 400,000 Washington adults currently have asthma
  - 1 in 10 women
  - 1 in 14 men
- About 120,000 Washington youth currently have asthma
- About 9% of Washington adults currently have asthma
- 1 in 10 households with children, have a child with asthma

# Washington State Asthma Plan Goals

## Community

- Improve the understanding and management of asthma

## Health care

- Assure access to and quality of asthma care
- Asthma care services utilization will be tracked
- Health care practitioners and health care delivery systems will receive support for providing high quality care that follows national and state guidelines.
- Continuously monitor the research to incorporate new interventions

## Environmental

- Assure a safe and healthier environment

## Schools

- Increase the number of 'asthma-friendly' schools



# Goals Continued...

## **Work-related Asthma**

- Reduce work-related asthma

## **Data and Surveillance**

- Describe asthma prevalence and impact within the Washington State population
- Support evaluation of the Washington State Asthma Plan
- Provide data to our stakeholders

## **Policy**

- Advocate and support policies that improve asthma care and decrease health disparities in Washington State

# State Plan's Potential Health Benefits

Reduce the burden of asthma in Washington with respect to:

- Improved children's health and wellbeing through decreased exacerbations and missed school days
- Improved access to quality asthma care
- Decreased disparities in asthma hospitalizations
- Improved environmental health conditions for asthma

# Next Steps

- Communicate burden of asthma to relevant publics
- Convene a state asthma summit (Nov 16<sup>th</sup>)
- Reform structure of WAI to address all components of the State Plan
- Initiate implementation across all sectors of the state through stakeholders and coalition partners
  - E.g. back-to-school awareness and school nurse education
- Letter of endorsements from SBOH and other stakeholders